



The Level Set

Weekly News from BLD CONNECTION

December 27, 2023



Dues Renewal Time!

Easily pay online [HERE](#)

Questions? Call (888) 544-6822

Northwestern Lumber Association and Mid-America Lumbermens Association are now BLD Connection. *The Level Set* is our weekly bulletin. Watch for this email every Wednesday to bring you up to speed on the latest events, education, and time-sensitive information.

Events & Outings

Upcoming

- **February 6-7, 2024 – BizCon North, Minneapolis, MN**
- **February 21-22, 2024 – BizCon South, Altoona, IA**
- **March 21, 2024 – Wisconsin Connection Conference, Baraboo, WI**

[VIEW THE FULL EVENTS CALENDAR](#)



Wisconsin Connection Conference Registration Opens January 1st

It's time to register for Wisconsin & Upper Michigan's BLD Connection Conference on March 21st at the Ho Chunk Casino in Baraboo, Wisconsin. This all-inclusive conference offers the opportunity to connect with others from the industry to network and learn from each other along with professional instructors who delve into the "must haves" for our evolving industry and workplaces. This year's programs include:

- Next Gen Roundtable
- Risk Management Seminar – *Protect Your Business Before It's Too Late*
- Membership Lunch & Meeting, Awards and Keynote

- Afternoon seminars on Sales, Leadership and Communication.
- Customer Panel Discussion with WBA Members – *What Customers are Looking for in a Building Material Supplier*

The day will wrap up with the fun Networking Reception including hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and a fun game of bags (Cornhole) and prizes!

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

BizCon North & South Hotel Info

BizCon North Hotel Information

DoubleTree Hotel by
Hilton
7800 Normandale
Boulevard,
Bloomington, MN
55439
(952) 835-7800



ROOM RATE: \$129.00 + tax
RATE GOOD UNTIL: Monday, Jan. 15, 2024
RESERVATIONS: Call 800-222-TREE (8799)
 or **REGISTER ONLINE**
REFERENCE: BLD Connection
CHECK IN: 3:00 pm | **CHECK OUT:** 12:00 pm
PARKING: Free



BizCon South Hotel Information

Prairie Meadows Hotel
& Casino
1 Prairie Meadows
Drive, Altoona, IA 50009
(515) 967-1000



ROOM RATE: \$141.00 + tax
RATE GOOD UNTIL: Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024
RESERVATIONS: Call 515-967-1000
 OR **REGISTER ONLINE**
GROUP CODE: NLABIZCON24
PASSWORD: 863005311
CHECK IN: 4:00 pm | **CHECK OUT:** 11:00 am
PARKING: Free

[REGISTRATION FOR DEALERS & EXHIBITORS HERE](#)

Professional Development

Upcoming Classes & Webinars

- January 9-11 – Estimating 1-2-3, Madison, WI - *Only 2 Seats Left*
- January 17-18 - Yard & Delivery Managers Workshop, Jefferson City, MO
- January 18 - Federated Webinar - Back to the Basics: Common OSHA Citations & Recordkeeping Review
- January 23-25 - Estimating 1-2-3, Inver Grove Heights, MN - *Sold out!*
- January 23-25 - Classic Roundtable
- February 12-13 - Blueprint Reading & Material Take-Off, Fayetteville, AR
- February 15-16 - Blueprint Reading & Material Take-Off, Kansas City, MO

VIEW THE FULL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR



Click on dates for links to registration and full details.

Newly Enhanced - Yard & Delivery Managers Workshop

David Wells, LBM Operations Consultant and Industrial Architect will be joining Ken Wilbanks for the newly enhanced Yard & Delivery workshop. We've added more focus on interpersonal skills to improve your potency as a leader and new innovative best practices for effective yard and warehouse layouts.

For the highest level of success to be achieved by these essential teams, they must be energetically led by effective managers through a set of rock-solid core best practices and standards that really work. The Yard & Delivery Managers Workshop devotes two dynamic days to understanding these essential best practices and providing powerful proven tools to insure stellar performance within each separate yet interrelated area of yard and delivery operations.

The tried and true Yard & Delivery Managers Workshop has been enhanced as never before!

January 17-18
Day 1: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Day 2: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Jefferson City, MO

Tour Hosted by Scruggs Lumber

"This is my opportunity to reset and reflect. The workshop provided ideas and motivation to address opportunities" - Ted

Blueprint Reading & Material Take-Off

February 12-13 - Fayetteville, AR

February 15-16 - Kansas City, MO

"...showing the floorplan and elevation and then the photos made it easy to visualize. The program was great!" - Evan

During this two-day program, instructor Casey Voorhees teaches basic blueprint reading by identifying lines, symbols, and details. Attendees develop an understanding of elevations, floor plans, framing and sectional views. They will be introduced to various residential construction methods and estimating formulas while working on a basic single level home with a trussed roof.

Based on their skill level, attendees choose between Day 1 & 2, Day 2 & 3 or ALL three days.

- Day 1: Introduction to Residential Construction & Blueprint Reading
- Day 2: Basic Residential Material Take-off
- Day 3: Advanced Residential Material Take-off

Attendees walk away understanding basic blueprint reading and various residential construction methods along with estimating formulas. This class walks through a take-off of a basic single level home with a trussed roof. Day 3 moves into the more advanced areas of a material take-off including irregular layouts, doors, windows, and millwork.

*We also have seats available in the March/April classes in Inver Grove Heights, MN. Sign up early to secure your spot!

Estimating 1-2-3

January 9-11
Madison, WI
Sponsored by GAF
(Only 2 Seats Left!)

January 23-25
Inver Grove Heights, MN
Sponsored by Simpson Strong-Tie
Sold out!

Future Dates:
March 26-28
Inver Grove Heights, MN
Sponsored by Simpson Strong-Tie

April 23-25
Inver Grove Heights, MN
Sponsored by Simpson Strong-Tie

Resource of the Month



Hire Power by Rikka Brandon

Hire Power includes 8 modules, each module is packed with engaging videos, practical worksheets, ready-to-use scripts, customizable templates, and real-world examples. Learn more [HERE](#).

Hire Power is an online, on demand training for the LBM and Building Products industry that gives you or your team members everything they need to start getting more qualified candidates for your job openings and get your offers accepted! It was designed by Rikka Brandon for busy

owners and leaders who understand that they need to be able to attract and keep great people for their business to thrive.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Shelby Lumber Co. is currently seeking to fill a full time position for their Manager position at their Lumberyard in Shelby, NE. Candidate is responsible for buying & managing inventory, ordering product, retail & contractor customer service & overseeing daily lumberyard activities. Benefits include: Salary, paid vacation, health insurance, 401k retirement, employee pricing and bonus opportunities.

Contact jason@shelbylumber.com with questions or to submit resume.

HELP WANTED

Forest Products Supply is looking for an individual to join our sales team in Omaha, Nebraska. Call 402-415-0080. Ask for Jerry. www.fpsupply.com

HELP WANTED

St. Peter Lumber and Do it Best Rental is looking for an enthusiastic and driven individual to join our management team. We are an established family-owned independent building material and rental retailer dedicated to providing top quality goods and services. Located in the beautiful Minnesota River valley, we take pride in our commitment to our employees, customers and community. We are currently seeking a Retail Store Manager. The ideal candidate will have a degree in business management and/or a minimum 3 years of retail management experience as well as experience in the building material industry. Candidates must have the ability to multi-task, prioritize and work well in a fast-paced environment. This is a full time, permanent position with starting salary of \$55,000 plus benefits of vacation, sick, holiday, medical, dental, retirement and employee discount. Please reach out with any questions or send resume to cdeblieck@stpeterlumber.com.

BLD CONNECTION



BLDCONNECTION.ORG